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Daniel Miranda

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 014089-002540US

A&J
#17
4/23/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Veerasamy Vijayen et al.

Application No.: 09/165,513

Filed: October 2, 1998

For: METHOD OF PRODUCING
RECORDING MEDIA HAVING
PROTECTIVE OVERCOATS OF
HIGHLY TETRAHEDRAL
AMORPHOUS CARBON

Examiner: RESAN, S.

Art Unit: 1773

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TC 1700

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the
following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 38, 59, and 61-63 and please cancel claim 60, as
follows.

~~38.~~ (Twice Amended) An article comprising:

a substrate; and

a layer disposed over the substrate, the layer comprising a highly
tetrahedral amorphous carbon having more than about 15% sp^3 carbon-carbon bonds and
a single peak Raman spectrum, the layer further comprising at least one of hydrogen and
nitrogen;

wherein a percentage of sp^3 carbon-carbon bonds in the layer increases as
a layer thickness decreases.

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